UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,058	12/29/2000	Chris L. Hendriks	1662-32700(P99-2903)	9027

7590	04/21/2004

Conley, Rose & Tayon
P.O. Box 3267
Houston, TX 77253-3267

EXAMINER
STRANGE, AARON N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2153	2

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _29 December 2000_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-25_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-25_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _29 December 2000_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1.   Claim 14 is objected to because of the following informalities: There appears to

be a grammatical error on line 1, ---comprises interface login protocol---. The Office

suggests that Applicant change the phrase to read ---comprises an interface login

protocol---. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 16 is objected to because of the following informalities: There appears to

be a grammatical error on line 1, ---internet service provide---. The Office suggests that

Applicant change the phrase to read ---Internet service provider---. Appropriate

correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3.   Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

4.   With regard to claims 1-25, the term ---the internet--- appears in several locations

throughout the claims, but appears to be used to mean ---the Internet---, referring

specifically to the well-known Internet. It appears in the following locations: Claim 1,

Lines 1 and 2; Claim 3, Lines 1 and 2; Claim 11, Lines 2 and 3; Claim 19, Line 2; and

Claim 25, Lines 1 and 2. It is unclear whether Applicant intends to refer to the Internet or

a generic internet. The Office suggests that Applicant change all instances of internet to

Internet.

5.   Claim 3 recites the limitation "logging in to" in line 1. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. The Office suggests that Applicant

change the phrase to read "logging on to".

6.   With regard to claim 16, the term ---internet--- is used on lines 1,2, and 3, but

appears to be used to mean ---Internet---. It is unclear whether Applicant intends to refer

to the Internet or a generic internet. The Office suggests that Applicant change all

instances of internet to Internet.

7.   All claims not individually referred to are rejected due to their dependency from

the above claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

9.   Claims 1-3,6-9,11,12,14,1`5,20-23, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

as being anticipated by Mohan et al. (US 2003/0005033).

10.   With regard to claim 1, Mohan et al. disclose a method of remotely managing

navigation data on the Internet, comprising: logging on to the Internet (Page 2, Par 38,

Lines 6-11); accessing a remote nav server (access the IIM server)(Page 2, Par 38,

Lines 1-3); and redirecting navigation data to the remote nav server (bookmarks an

cookies are maintained on the IIM) (Page 3, Par 49 and Page 4, Par 68).

11.   With regard to claim 2, Mohan et al. disclose selecting whether navigation data is

to be managed remotely (Navigation data (cookies) may be managed by the client

directly or alternatively by the IIM)(Page 4, Par 62, Lines 8-13).

12.   With regard to claim 3, Mohan et al. further disclose that logging in to the Internet

comprises: starting an Internet web browser (access the web site) (Page 2, Par 38,

Lines 1-3); and starting a nav module (client component) coupled to the web browser

(Page 2, Par 38, Lines 3-6).

13.   With regard to claim 6, Mohan et al. further disclose that the nav server provides

remote protocol for the navigation data to be redirected to the nav server (Cookie

Manager handles all cookies being transferred)(Page 3, Par 44, Lines 11-15).

14.   With regard to claim 7, Mohan et al. does not specifically disclose that the remote

protocol includes the address and formatting for the navigation data to be redirected to

the nav server. However, the address and formatting for the navigation is required in

order to send the data to the nav server. The address is needed to identify the location

of the nav server, and the formatting is needed for the nav server to be able to interpret

the data received and properly store it. Therefore, these items are inherent in the

remote protocol, despite the lack of a specific reference to them.

15.   With regard to claim 8, Mohan et al. further disclose that accessing a remote

server comprises logging on to the remote server as a specific user (each client has its

own client component) (Page 2, Par 41).

16.   With regard to claim 9, Mohan et al. further disclose that the navigation data is

separately stored at the nav server for each user (each user's cookies are stored at the

IIM)(Page 4, Par 68, Lines 7-13).

17.   With regard to claim 11, Mohan et al. disclose a system for remotely managing

navigation data, comprising: a computer (client) having access to the Internet via a web

browser (Page 2, Par 38, Lines 1-3); a remote nav server (IIM server component)

accessible via the Internet (Page 2, Par 38, Lines 1-3); and a nav module (client

component) coupled to the web browser selectively redirecting navigation data to the

remote nav server (bookmarks an cookies are maintained on the IIM) (Page 3, Par 49

and Page 4, Par 68).

18.   With regard to claim 12, Mohan et al. further disclose that the nav server includes

remote memory to store the navigation data (IIM stores cookies) (Page 4, Par 68, Lines

8-10).

19.   With regard to claim 14, Mohan et al. further disclose that the nav server

comprises an interface login protocol which requires each user to login (Page 2, Par 42,

Lines 10-13).

20.   With regard to claim 15, Mohan et al. further disclose that the nav server

separately stores the navigation data for each user (each user's cookies are stored at

the IIM)(Page 4, Par 68, Lines 7-13).

21.   With regard to claim 20, Mohan et al. further disclose that the nav module

retrieves the remote protocol for redirecting the navigation data (Cookie Manager) from

the nav server (Client component is loaded upon connection to nav server) (Page 3, Par

44). Since the client component does not exist prior to initiating a connection to the nav

server, the protocol must be retrieved from the server after the client component is

created.

22.   With regard to claim 21, Mohan et al. further disclose that the nav module

intercepts attempts to read or write navigation data and redirects those attempts to the

remote nav server (Attempts to read cookies from the browser are redirected to the IIM

cookie database)(Page 5, Par 72, Lines 4-6).

23.   With regard to claim 22, while Mohan et al. fail to specifically disclose that the

nav module overlays that portion of the web browser responsible for attempts to read or

write navigation data, it is an inherent feature of the system. Since cookies are

maintained by the IIM (Page 4, Par 62), the nav module must overlay the portion of the

web browser responsible for attempts to read or write. When navigation data is

transmitted, the nav module must intercept it and stores in the nav server so that the IIM

can maintain the cookies. If navigation data is to be read by the browser, the request

must be redirected to the nav server, since that is where the navigation data is

maintained. Therefore, it is inherent that the nav module overlay the portion of the web

browser which is responsible for reading and writing navigation data.

24.   With regard to claim 23, while Mohan et al. do not specifically disclose that the

nav module passes to the web browser a remote protocol for redirecting the navigation

data to the nav server, it is inherent. The web browser must receive the protocol in order

to redirect the navigation data to the correct location. The navigation data cannot be

properly arranged or addressed without the browser having knowledge of the protocol

being used. Therefore, passing the remote protocol to the web browser is inherent in

the system disclosed by Mohan et al., despite the lack of a specific reference to it.

25.   With regard to claim 25, Mohan et al. disclose a method for managing navigation

data on the Internet, comprising: logging on to the Internet (access the web site)(Page

2, Par 38, Lines 1-3); accessing a remote nav server (Page 2, Par 38, Lines 1-3); and

downloading navigation data from the remote nav server (get bookmarks)(Page 8, Par

131-132).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

26.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

27.   Claims 4,10,13,17,18, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Mohan et al. (US 2003/0005033).

28.   With regard to claims 4,17, and 18, while the system disclosed by Mohan et al.

shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to

disclose that the nav module in conjunction with the web browser prompts the user to

select whether navigation data is to be managed remotely, either at logon or whenever navigation data is to be accessed.

Mohan et al. disclose that navigation data (cookies) may be managed by the client directly or alternatively by the IIM)(Page 4, Par 62, Lines 8-13), but do not disclose prompting the user to make a choice between the two management methods. However, it would be advantageous to give the user a choice as to whether to manage the data remotely. Since the remote management data must be stored at the IIM, it would be advantageous to bypass remote management of navigation data on the user's primary computer system. This would allow the space on the IIM to be reserved for when the user is accessing the IIM from other locations, while still allowing access to the other features of the IIM such as account information storage. Prompting whenever navigation data is to be accessed gives the user the opportunity to decide if individual pieces of navigation such as cookies or bookmarks should be managed remotely or locally. This would be particularly advantageous for bookmarks since the user could maintain a set of bookmarks for each local system as well as a set of remote bookmarks which are available whenever the user logs on to the IIM.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to prompt the user to determine whether to manage navigation data remotely. This would allow the user to bypass remote management from their primary computer in order to save space on the IIM, without losing access to the other features of the IIM such as account information storage. Prompting whenever

navigation data is to be accessed would allow the user to choose whether individual

data such as bookmarks should be managed remotely.

29.   With regard to claims 10 and 13, while the system disclosed by Mohan et al.

shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to

disclose that the navigation data is securely stored at the nav server.

        Mohan et al. do disclose that the navigation data is stored at the nav server.

Securely storing data is well-known in the art and is particularly advantageous when

dealing with the storage of personal information. The navigation data stored at the nav

server includes cookies, which could be used to determine personal information about

the user including browsing habits, location information, and potentially identifying

information. Securely storing this data would be desirable in order to protect the privacy

of the system users.

        Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to securely store the data at the nav server in order to

protect the privacy of the system users.

30.   With regard to claim 24, while the system disclosed by Mohan et al. shows

substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to disclose that

the nav module is incorporated within the web browser.

        The nav module (client component) disclosed by Mohan et al. is created each

time that the client connects to the IIM (Page 2, Par 38, Lines 3-4). Mohan et al.

disclose that the nav module is resident on the client system while the client is

connected to the IIM and may be removed when the client disconnects from the IIM

(Page 3, Par, 44, Lines 7-11). However, if the client makes frequent connections to the IIM, this would result in a lot of processing time being wasted creating and removing the nav module for each connection. It would be advantageous to incorporate the nav module into the web browser so that it does not need to be loaded each time the client connects to the IIM. This would make it faster for the user to access their information stored on the IIM, improving the overall user experience. It would also reduce traffic on the network since the nav module would no longer need to be sent to the client each time a connection to the IIM is made.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the nav module into the web browser so it would not have to be loaded and unloaded for each user session. This would make it faster for the users to access the IIM, as well as reduce traffic on the network due to transmitting the nav module to the client each time it connects.

31.   Claims 5 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohan et al. (US 2003/0005033) in view of G-Lock Software.

32.   With regard to claims 5 and 19, while the system disclosed by Mohan et al. shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to disclose that the nav module in conjunction with the web browser directs the user to the nav server to log in.

Mohan et al. disclose that there may be a plurality of IIM which

the user can connect to. An example is given of a connecting to their "home" IIM and being redirected to a local IIM in order to optimize the connection (Page 2-3, Par 42). However, Mohan et al. remain silent on the method used to redirect the user.

G-Lock Software discloses a program, Proxy Analyzer, which checks a plurality of proxy servers to determine which is the fastest. Since the speed of connection is important to most users, this is a very useful feature. It would be advantageous to have the nav module in conjunction with the web browser check the speed of the plurality of IIM in order to determine which one would be the fastest for the present user. It would be a further advantage to have the nav module in conjunction with the web browser automatically direct the user to the fastest IIM to log in.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the nav module in conjunction with the web browser determine the location of the fastest IIM for the user's present location and direct the user to the appropriate server to log in. This would provide the optimal connection to each user when the connection is initiated.

33.   Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mohan et al. (US 2003/0005033) in view of Gabber et al. (US 5,961,593).

34.   With regard to claim 16, while the system disclosed by Mohan et al. shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to disclose an Internet service provider which in conjunction with the web browser provides Internet access, wherein the nav server is incorporated within the Internet service provider.

Gabber discloses a similar system for providing anonymous access to the Internet through a proxy server, allowing users to prevent identifying information from being forwarded to destination servers. Gabber et al. teach that it would be advantageous for an Internet service provider to implement a proxy system to allow their customers' personal information to be protected. Since the system disclosed by Mohan et al. also handles personal information about the users, it would be equally advantageous for an ISP to utilize an IIM to act as an intermediary between the users and the destination servers in order to help protect the privacy of the users. Another advantage would be for travelers that use a large, national ISP. Since they may use different computers nearly every day, it would be helpful to have access to their saved navigation data and be able to prevent local storage of the data to enhance privacy.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the nav server within an ISP since it would allow the customers of the ISP to protect their personal information as well as access their saved navigation data from any computer which connects to that ISP.

35.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron Strange whose telephone number is 703-305-8878. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).
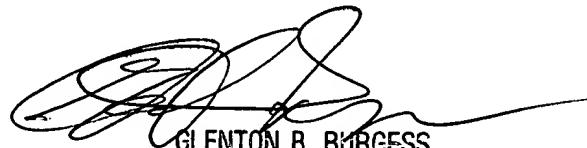
GLENTON B. BURGESS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100